

In re Appln. of Hulse et al.  
Serial No. 08/853,422

C1 edge adjacent the cup opening, the lip having an inner proximal edge terminating substantially at the side wall edge or subjacent the side wall; and

a handle coupled to the vacuum cup.

<sup>19</sup>  
12. (Amended) The obstetrical vacuum extractor of claim [11] <sup>18</sup>~~23~~ wherein the side wall includes an outer substantially circumferential surface, and the at least one rib extends about at least a portion of the circumferential surface.

C2 <sup>20</sup>  
13. (Amended) The obstetrical vacuum extractor of claim [11] <sup>18</sup>~~23~~ comprising at least two ribs.

116. (Twice Amended) An obstetrical vacuum extractor comprising:  
a vacuum cup substantially in the shape of a bell with an outwardly  
C3 flaring edge and a cup opening;  
a post-molded lip molded on the outwardly flaring edge of the vacuum cup, the lip having an inner proximal edge terminating substantially subjacent the outwardly flaring edge;  
a hollow, elongated stem integrally formed with the cup and communicating with the cup opening, the distal end of the stem being adapted for connection to a vacuum source; and  
a gripping device coupled to the stem.

Please add the following new claims 23-25:

C4 ~~23~~. An obstetrical vacuum extractor for placement on a child's head for use during childbirth, the obstetrical vacuum extractor comprising, in combination,

a vacuum cup formed of a first material, the vacuum cup having a side wall defining a hollow interior cavity, the side wall having a side wall edge forming a cup opening, the side wall further comprising at least one rib, the vacuum cup further including a vacuum opening communicating with the interior cavity of the vacuum cup and being adapted for connection to a vacuum source;

a lip formed of a polymeric second material, the second material being flexible relative to the first material, the lip being secured along said side wall edge adjacent the cup opening, the second material of the lip being molded to the at least one rib, the lip having an inner proximal edge terminating substantially at the side wall edge or subjacent the side wall; and

a handle coupled to the vacuum cup.

C4  
24. An obstetrical vacuum extractor for placement on a child's head for use during childbirth, the obstetrical vacuum extractor comprising, in combination,

a vacuum cup formed of a first material, the vacuum cup having a side wall defining a hollow interior cavity, the side wall having a side wall edge forming a cup opening, the side wall further comprising at least one projection extending outwardly from the side wall, the vacuum cup further including a vacuum opening communicating with the interior cavity of the vacuum cup and being adapted for connection to a vacuum source;

a lip formed of a polymeric second material, the second material being flexible relative to the first material, the lip being secured along said side wall edge adjacent the cup opening and being molded along the at least one projection, the lip having an inner proximal edge terminating substantially at the side wall edge or subjacent the side wall; and

a handle coupled to the vacuum cup.